

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/629,696

Examiner

James A. Thompson

Applicant(s)

NG ET AL

Art Unit

2624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 01 December 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8 and 10-24.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☒ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 20060209.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


DAVID MOORE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

Art Unit: 2625

For the purpose of correcting formal matters, Examiner contacted Applicant's representative, Justin D. Petruzzelli (Reg. #52,118), to request the co-pending application serial numbers for the co-pending applications listed on page 1, lines 6-16 of the specification and to request permission to amend the specification accordingly in an Examiner's amendment.

Applicant's representative provided the application serial numbers and granted permission to amend the specification accordingly in an Examiner's amendment.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James A. Thompson whose telephone number is 571-272-7441. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K. Moore can be reached on 571-272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



James A. Thompson
Examiner
Division 2625

09 February 2006

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Justin D. Petruzzelli (Reg. # 52,118) on 09 February 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

- a. Change page 1, line 6 of the specification **from** "1. U.S. Patent Application Serial No. _____ filed" to "1. U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/629,994 filed".
- b. Change page 1, line 9 of the specification **from** "2. U.S. Patent Application Serial No. _____ filed" to "2. U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/628,397 filed".
- c. Change page 1, line 12 of the specification **from** "3. U.S. Patent Application Serial No. _____ filed" to "3. U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/630,435 filed".
- d. Change page 1, line 15 of the specification **from** "4. U.S. Patent Application Serial No. _____ filed" to "4. U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/629,993 filed".

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments, see pages 9-12 of the Appeal Brief filed 01 December 2005, with respect to the rejections under 35 USC §103(a) listed in items 3-10 of the final rejection mailed 29 June 2005 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejections under 35 USC §103(a) listed in items 3-10 of said final rejection have been withdrawn.

Since Lin (US Patent 5,742,703) does not teach that the current pixel which is analyzed in independent claims 1, 13, 20 and 21 is not specifically derived from halftone screen processed data, then Lin does not fully teach "analyzing a current pixel of the halftone processed screen image data to a test criterion to determine if the current pixel is a possible saturated color text image" as recited in independent claim 1; "analyzing a current pixel of the first gray level image data for contrast index" as recited in independent claim 13; "an input to each of said screen processing devices to input image data representing a current gray level pixel; a device for analyzing the current pixel for contrast index" as recited in claim 20; and "blending halftone screen processed gray level image data of the same current pixel to form a blended halftone

Art Unit: 2624

screen processed gray level value current pixel" as recited in claim 21.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-8 and 10-24 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art references cited in said final rejection do not fully teach the recited claims, as discussed above in the "Response to Arguments". Furthermore, Examiner has been unable to find additional prior art which anticipates the recited claims and/or renders the recited claims obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention. Accordingly, claims 1-8 and 10-24 are considered allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James A. Thompson whose telephone number is 571-272-7441. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K. Moore can be reached on 571-272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



9 February 2006

James A. Thompson
Examiner
Division 2625



DAVID MOORE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600